Recitation of ranges of values herein are merely intended to serve as a shorthand method of referring individually to each separate value falling within the range, unless otherwise indicated herein, and each separate value is incorporated into the specification as if it were individually recited herein. The endpoints of all ranges directed to the same component or property are inclusive and independently combinable.

All methods described herein can be performed in a suitable order unless otherwise indicated or clearly contradicted by context. The use of any and all examples, or exemplary language (e.g., "such as") herein is intended to better illuminate the disclosure and is non-limiting unless otherwise specified. No language in the specification should be construed as indicating that any non-claimed element as essential to the practice of the claimed embodiments. Unless defined otherwise, technical and scientific terms used herein have the same meaning as is commonly understood by one of skill in the art to which this disclosure belongs. The terms wt %, weight percent, percent by weight, etc. are equivalent and interchangeable

Embodiments are described herein, including the best modes known to the inventors. Variations of such embodiments will become apparent to those of ordinary skill in the art upon reading the foregoing description. The skilled artisan is expected to employ such variations as appropriate, and the disclosed methods are expected to be practiced otherwise than as specifically described herein. Accordingly, all modifications and equivalents of the subject matter recited in the claims appended hereto are included to the extent permitted by applicable law. Moreover, any combination of the above-described elements in all possible variations thereof is encompassed unless otherwise indicated herein or otherwise clearly contradicted by context.

What is claimed is:

1. A method of using colchicine to treat a gout flare in a human patient who is receiving concomitant administration of clarithromycin or erythromycin, said method comprising:

determining a first colchicine dosage amount adapted for oral administration to the patient to treat a gout flare in the absence of concomitant administration of clarithromycin or erythromycin,

determining a second colchicine dosage amount that is about a two thirds reduction of the first colchicine dosage amount,

orally administering the second colchicine dosage amount to the patient who is experiencing a gout flare and is concomitantly receiving administration of clarithromycin or erythromycin, wherein concomitant administration of clarithromycin or erythromycin is administration within 1 to 2 days of orally administering the second colchicine dosage amount, and

not repeating colchicine administration for at least three days.

2. The method of claim **1** wherein the two thirds reduction comprises reducing the number of doses of colchicine administered.

3. The method of claim **1** wherein the two thirds reduction comprises reducing the size of at least one colchicine dose.

4. The method of claim **1** wherein the two thirds reduction comprises reducing both the number of doses of colchicine administered and the size of at least one colchicine dose.

5. The method of claim **1** wherein the patient is an adult.

6. The method of claim **5** wherein the patient is less than 70 years old.

7. The method of claim **1** wherein the patient is receiving concomitant administration of clarithromycin.

8. The method of claim **1** wherein the first colchicine dosage amount is about 1.8 mg per day and the second colchicine dosage amount is about 0.6 mg per day.

9. The method of claim **8** wherein, after administration of the second colchicine dosage amount as a single 0.6 mg dose, ingestion of colchicine is not repeated for at least three days.

10. A method of using colchicine to treat a gout flare in an adult human gout patient so as to reduce the occurrence of colchicine toxicity when said patient is receiving concomitant administration of clarithromycin or erythromycin, said method comprising:

administering a reduced colchicine dosage amount to the patient to treat gout flares, wherein the reduced colchicine dosage amount is about 50% to about 75% of a manufacturer's recommended colchicine dosage amount in the absence of concomitant clarithromycin or erythromycin administration, and

not repeating colchicine administration for at least three days,

wherein concomitant administration of clarithromycin or erythromycin is administration within 1 to 2 days of orally administering the second colchicine dosage amount.

11. The method of claim **10** wherein the reduced colchicine dosage amount is about 0.6 mg per day.

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